

Jordan Chassan's self-titled debut issued last year on Polydor was one of the most overlooked albums of last year. He called a couple of weeks to promote his show next week and was amazed I knew he was. (This hardly ever happens.) Anyway, after spending a few years in the New Jersey/New York scene playing in CBBGs type groups, Chassan started writing jazz influenced blues songs or maybe its blues influenced jazz songs. They also have touches of country and pop and wry lyrics where you're not quite sure whether or not he's being sarcastic. In addition to a clear direct singing style, he's one hot guitar player who never misses a chance to get funky. His album which features the top notch skills of Hank Bones on upright bass and Phil Leone on drums was recorded live in the studio the old fashioned way. But Chassan isn't old fashioned. Just kinda timeless.

Jordan Chassan: Wed., June 10 at 9 p.m. at the North Star Bar, 27th and Poplar Sts., 235-STAR.

--Peter Brown